

Dudas Inspiration Venue for the Arts



Board Meeting
October 8, 2017, at 2:00 p.m.
404 South 17th Street, Richmond, Indiana

Amy Dudas called the meeting to order at 2:14 p.m. Directors present included Andy Dudas, Amy Dudas, Stacy Wentzell, Chris Gibson, Jared Adamson, Matt Socey, Pam Fraizer, and Amy Allen Sekhar.

The minutes of the July 6, 2017, Board Meeting, having been circulated via email prior to the meeting, were reviewed. After a motion and a second, the minutes of the July 6, 2017, Board Meeting were unanimously approved.

The approval of new board members Jared Adamson, Matt Socey, Pam Fraizer, and Amy Allen Sekhar via email was ratified.

Amy D. presented the treasurer's report for period ending September 30, 2017. After a motion and a second, the treasurer's report was unanimously approved.

Amy D. reported that the 1023-EZ application was approved and that 501(c)(3) status was made retroactive to our date of formation, July 2, 2017. We are therefore exempt from federal income tax and state sales tax, and donations to DIVA are generally tax-deductible.

The status of the building renovations was discussed. Amy Dudas disclosed that the building at 708-714 East Main Street is owned by Dudas Properties, LLC, in which she is the single member. The plan is to loan at no charge the use of the third floor space, after renovations, to the operation of DIVA. There is also an intention to bequeath the building to DIVA upon Amy D.'s death. However, it is acknowledged and disclosed that renovations to the building itself will benefit a private entity owned by a DIVA board member, which requires full disclosure and abstention from decision-making regarding this topic.

Andy has been working with the various entities to determine procedure and cost. Needed renovations include the installation of an elevator, new HVAC system for the third floor, remodeling of bathroom space for accessibility and volume, a potential sprinkler system, a kitchen/bar area, and a rooftop deck. After consulting with an architect, it was learned that the estimate with renderings would cost approximately \$8,000. Andy has since made contact with a local contractor to determine if a contractor's estimate would be a bit more cost-effective. In addition, board member Pam Fraizer has agreed to assist with artistic renderings. The idea is to put together a packet that will be used to present to funders, grant-makers, and private donors, starting with Richmond Redevelopment Commission. Amy S. will start gathering potential resources from disability awareness groups with regard to an elevator and other necessary accessibility needs.

The primary strategy for marketing is currently social media. We have a website and a blog, and all board members were encouraged to submit blog posts. Andy has written several, as has Jared. In

order to not risk jeopardizing our 501(c)(3) status, we need to stay apolitical. To ensure we do not alienate any interested person, we should strive to stay relatively areligious. However, this does not mean that we will not allow the venue to be used for political and/or religious purposes. We will need to formulate a policy soon for our vetting of proposed exhibits/productions in the spirit of staying true to art as a form of free expression while balancing a lack of tolerance for offensive material such as hate speech and the incitement of violence.

Amy D. reminded the Board that interstate solicitation of funds requires registration in certain states beyond Indiana, so please check before seeking funding from sources outside the state of Indiana.

Amy D. reported that the improve troupe is a full group of six men and six women of diverse age. It is not diverse with regard to ethnicity, and this is something we should always keep our eye on. Amy D. will regroup with Lynne Perkins Socey soon to determine her availability to get the workshop started, likely after January of 2018.

Other options for programming were discussed. Ideas included storytelling, folk/acoustic music, variety shows, mixology classes, and cooking demonstrations. It is our hope to maintain a very loose definition of art and include everyone as artists.

There was no old business to discuss.

For new business, Amy D. presented a proposed Conflict of Interest policy. After a motion and a second, the policy was approved. Each board member should sign and return it to Amy D.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Noe Dudas, Secretary